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TEED 521 – Instructional Technology Report

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Technology: **Digital Camera** 

Digital cameras are cameras that allow a person to take still photos and videos in a digital format, sans film. Most modern cameras are digital, and there are many useful features that can be helpful to teachers. Because the cameras do not require film, they are economical. And, it digital files can be uploaded and edited on a computer with basic software. Although many of the digital camera’s application require or with other forms of technology, they can also be used to simple take pictures and have them printed at a local photo processing center. However, the most creative uses require a computer or technology skills. Digital cameras are also affordable—new cameras are available for purchase at major retailers for as little as $40 for the most basic models.

**Classroom uses:**

* Teachers can take pictures of students displaying desired/undesired behaviors, create Classroom Rules posters, and display them in the room. The pictures serve as a visual aid for things such as on task vs. off task.
* Teachers can document student work: the process and the final product. The teacher can share the pictures with students, but also use them for assessment/documentation purposes. The images can supplement student files and act as proof of student learning and/or progress.
* Teachers can upload photos to a classroom blog or Web site.
* Teachers can offer the use of the camera to students during school projects.

**Examples:**

Below are examples of photos I took with a digital camera during the Woodland Park Zoo UpClose presentation. I included these and others in the weekly newsletter that is sent home to parents & families with the students’ homework packets. I also used the camera to take pictures of books and our class brainstorm to communicate with parents.



